

Program Structure Changes

Beginning in January 2005, the Department of Planning and Budget performed an extensive review with all state agencies to improve the quality of the Virginia State Government Program Structure. The revision was necessary in part because of the increased emphasis on strategic planning and performance measures, and the need to make the program and service area titles easier to understand.

As part of the Commonwealth's chart of accounts, the program structure describes what state government does programmatically. The structure is broken out by the eight major functions of state government, followed by subfunctions, programs, and service areas. Service areas replace what was previously referred to as subprograms.

A detailed explanation of the structure, along with the structure itself, is found on DPB's website at: <http://dpb.virginia.gov/forms/forms.cfm>. Search on the phrase, "program structure." Interested persons are encouraged to go to an agency's website and read their strategic and service area plans to learn more about the agency and the programs it provides.